GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3211
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2006
SETTING UP OF INTER STATE PROJECTS TO TAP WATER RESOURCES
Bhargav Shri Girdhari Lal;Maheshwari Smt. Kiran

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has formulated any policy to set up inter-state projects to tap water resources for power generation in the country to meet the shortage of electricity to the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) to (c) : A policy on hydro power development was formulated and announced by the Government in August, 1998 incorporating several steps and measures for accelerated development of hydro power projects. The hydro policy among others lays emphasis on basin-wise development, evolving consensus on inter-State issues, promoting joint venture arrangements, simplified procedure for transfer of clearances etc. Various Central / Joint Sector Corporations have been created for implementation of hydro projects. Three-stage clearance procedure has also been introduced to expedite execution of projects in the Central Sector.

Some hydro power potential has remained untapped because of unresolved inter-State issues primarily involving sharing of water. The Government of India recognizes the need for evolving an approach to ensure that the available hydro-electric potential is fully utilized without prejudice to the rights of the riparian States as determined by the Awards of Tribunals/Agreements arrived at among the party States for a given river basin with regard to water sharing. The selection and design of project is based on integrated basin wise studies, so as to arrive at an optimal decision and care is taken that such projects do not in any way prejudice the claims of basin states or affect benefits from the existing projects. As per the policy, a consensus is to be evolved amongst the basin states regarding the location of such project, basic parameters involved and mechanism through which each project would be constructed and operated.